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Bulletin, April, 1904, mentions *Ophioglossum pusillum* Nutt. "This I once found growing abundantly just west of Jacksonville in a damp sandy spot with *Ludwigia palustris*, etc. It has also been found much further south."

"*Cheilanthes microphylla* Sw.

Found by me about twenty-five years ago, on a shaded shell mound near the mouth of the St. John's River. It seems since to have entirely disappeared."

Curtiss reports *Botrychium obliquum* Muhl., *Asplenium ebeneum* L., *Polystichum acrostichoides* Schott, as found only in northwestern Florida, so I have had the pleasure of adding a new station.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA.

Fern Hunting in Florida in the Phosphate Country

M. A. NOBLE

About seven miles southwest of Inverness, the county seat of Citrus County, following the winding roads of the turpentine orchards and phosphate mines, one comes to a circular basin, whose gently sloping sides are broken by three or four groups of rocks, bearing a scanty growth of ferns, mostly *Asplenium platyneuron* and *Dryopteris patens*. In the center of the basin is a moist spot, with a few clumps of *Woodwardia Virginica*. But one of the rocks, the last to be found, is quite different. Almost hidden in the sloping bank appears a small cave, the earth above it bearing a luxuriant vine, whose leafy stems strung with snowy berries hang like a curtain over the entrance. A few irregular rocks form a rude stairway down to the mouth of the cave. Among these grow *Dryopteris patens*, *Asplenium platyneuron*, and *A. parvulum*. Overhead is a low arch of rock, completely covered with the moss-like fronds of

Asplenium myriophyllum. The sight was well worth the ride through hot sunshine, followed by soaking rain.

At about the same distance southward from Lake Tsala-Apopka is an interesting fern hammock. As this term is frequently misunderstood, it may be well to borrow a definition from a Report of the State Geological Survey. "A hammock is nothing more nor less than a certain type of vegetation; namely, a comparatively dry soil (or at least not wet enough to be called a swamp), in a region where open pine forests predominate. The ground in such places is always covered with more or less humus derived from the trees, but immediately under the humus the soil may be either sand, clay, marl, or limestone."

After a long ride through the "cut-over" lands of several phosphate plants, where the stumps of the dead pine trees rise at intervals over the low oak scrub, the lofty trees and the green leafage of the hammock is a welcome sight. In this moist shade are jagged, irregular rocks covered with ferns. On fallen trees, and along the lofty branches, droop the graceful fronds of *Polypodium plumula*; while in the crevices of the rocks, and on the crags, thick as grass, grow *Dryopteris patens*; *Asplenium platyneuron*, with its brown stipes; *A. parvulum*, with shining black stipes, and very narrow fronds; *Adiantum tenerum*, so strong and tall that it seems abnormal in outline; *Pteris Cretica*, with long lance-like pinnae appearing like some stout, short-bladed grass; *Asplenium firmum*, well-named from the plain, undivided form of its pinnae; and, most beautiful of all, the delicate, feathery *Asplenium myriophyllum*.

A few miles further south, following the track of the Atlantic Coast Line, is the flag-station of Pineola: no town, nor post office, but simply a station at the southern edge of Citrus County. About a mile to the east of the station, and near the left bank of the Withlacoochee

River, is a wonderful rocky hammock; one writer calls it "a Paradise of ferns." Here are all the rock-loving ferns of the West Coast that can be found in this latitude, among them the rare creeping fern with so many different names of which the most recent is *Goniopteris reptans*. It has two sorts of fronds, one erect and stout, the other long and tapering, and bending over to the ground to take root like the well known Walking Leaf of the Northern woods.

Another fern of unusual appearance is the *Tectaria trifoliata*, with fronds 12'-18' long, 6'-12' broad. It has scant resemblance to the usual form of a fern, but the large round sori are very evident and unmistakable.

INVERNESS, FLA.

The Ferns of Greene County, Missouri

PAUL C. STANDLEY

Greene County lies in the southwestern part of Missouri, its western and southern borders being about 55 and 40 miles distant, respectively, from the Kansas and Arkansas borders. It occupies the Missouri summit of that geologically most ancient part of the central Mississippi Valley, the Ozark Uplift. The central and western parts of the county consist chiefly of a nearly level prairie, given over to agricultural uses and now possessing but little of the original forest, while the eastern, northern, and southern parts are composed largely of low, rocky, thinly forested hills. The rocks are chiefly Carboniferous and Ordovician limestones, but sandstone is found occasionally.

The flora of this part of Missouri possesses many features of interest, for this county is one of those several hundreds in the United States which are "peculiar" in being the meeting point for the eastern, western, northern, and southern floras. It is a fact, nevertheless, that the